United Nations A/71/848–S/2017/243

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
23 March 2017

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda item 61
Peacebuilding and sustaining peace

Security Council
Seventy-second year

Letter dated 22 March 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I write to you regarding the serious near-war situation being created in the Korean peninsula due to the ongoing largest-ever joint military exercises being sponsored by the United States.

The United States, in collaboration with south Korea, dared with no hesitation enter into opening the joint military exercises targeted at the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), beginning from 1 March 2017. As already reported, for the joint military exercises to be held until the end of the coming April, massive numbers (hundreds of thousands) of troops are being mobilized, along with all kinds of strategic assets, including a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, nuclear submarines and nuclear strategic bombers.

The United States is not hiding the fact that the purpose of these exercises is to take a nuclear pre-emptive strike against the DPRK for "regime change" based on its "operation plan 4D".

The United States is making claims that it has been holding these joint military exercises for over 40 years on a routine basis. This very fact is strong proof of how long the US nuclear war manoeuvres have been taking place against the DPRK with great intransigence and how much great patience the DPRK has been demonstrating.

We cannot remain an onlooker to the aggressive manoeuvres being committed by the United States and its followers, who are severely threatening the peace and security of the Korean peninsula, the region and the world at large, and therefore, we submitted a letter to the President of the Security Council on 6 March 2017 making a request to hold an emergency meeting to discuss the US-south Korea joint military exercises as an agenda item of the Council.

However, the Security Council is yet again silent, with no response at all.

17-04749 (E) 270317

Please recycle

The Security Council, while taking issue with the normal military exercises being held by our military in our own land, is persistently turning away from our call for an emergency meeting regarding these aggressive joint military exercises.

This is the extreme end of unfairness and a double standard and shabby prejudice.

The measures being undertaken to strengthen the national military power in our land, waters and airspace are the regular self-defensive ones to safeguard the sovereignty of our country from the continuous nuclear threats and blackmail coming from the United States.

We, and the neighbouring countries as well, are deeply concerned about the aggressive nature and danger of the US-south Korea joint military exercises as ever.

It is the unanimous conclusion of the fair-handed international society that the ongoing largest-ever nuclear war exercises are the root cause pressing the DPRK to the toughest countermoves.

I cordially request you to bring to the attention of the Security Council, in line with Article 99 of the Charter of the United Nations, the ongoing highly dangerous US-south Korea joint military exercises, which are an obvious threat to international peace and security.

I believe that this is in conformity with not only the requirement of the Charter but also the mission of the Secretariat, which has impartiality and independence as its lifeline.

I look forward to you, who took the oath to be committed to the Charter, positively considering and responding to our sincere appeals.

Furthermore, I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ja** Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative